

# *Township of Egg Harbor*

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## *Office of the Mayor*

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April 24, 2009

The Honorable Frank LoBiondo  
2nd Congressional District, New Jersey  
2427 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Garden State Parkway, Exit 36 – Egg Harbor Township, Atlantic County**

Dear Congressman LoBiondo:

**It is with great enthusiasm that I write to request your support in providing \$12,000,000 in federal transportation funds for Egg Harbor Township's proposed transportation improvements at the Exit 36 interchange off of the Garden State Parkway and upgrades to the road network in and around its intersection with the Black Horse Pike (U.S. Route 40/322).** Upon completion, this \$17,000,000+ project will address both traffic congestion at the interchange and its connection to both the Black Horse Pike and Tilton Road, allowing for a safer, more navigable local transportation network.

In recent years, increased traffic volume has become a major concern for Egg Harbor Township. Many of the intersections in the Township have failing levels of service and are in need of major improvements. Our 2002 Master Plan identified that an estimated 10 trips per day per residential dwelling were being made along with continued commercial development, putting enhanced pressure on the roadways to accommodate the increased traffic. **Along with our Master Plan, the Livable Community Plan (led and supported by Egg Harbor residents), our Township Committee, and the New Jersey Pinelands Commission also acknowledged the traffic congestion and safety issues surrounding our transportation network.**

**In coordination with Cedar Shopping Centers, Inc. – the owner/developer of the Shore Mall – Egg Harbor Township has entered into a public-private partnership in order to initially implement the proposed improvements to the Exit 36 interchange and associated road network.** Specifically, these improvements include the redesign of the Exit 36 ramp, along with a reconfiguration of the ramp's intersection with both the Black Horse Pike and Tilton Road. This transportation solution will effectively mitigate current traffic congestion at the Black Horse Pike intersection and reduce motorist accidents. Future phases will provide direct access to the Egg Harbor Township School District's future middle school complex, along with future development sites along Broadway Avenue, including a proposed 55+ residential community. **Preliminary**

Letter to the Honorable Frank LoBiondo  
April 24, 2009  
Page 2

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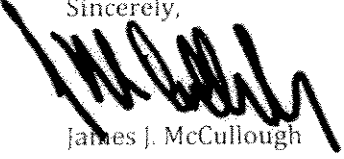
**design efforts are currently underway, with Cedar contributing the funding required for all preconstruction activities, including design, Right of Way acquisition, and utility relocation. These costs are estimated to exceed \$5,500,000.**

The Township is also working closely with Atlantic County and the New Jersey Department of Transportation on refining the project, as well as beginning to navigate the programming requirements related to the Transportation Improvement Program. **To date, both organizations have been supportive of our efforts, and we will continue to engage them, as well as the public, as the project's design continues to evolve.**

We believe the Exit 36 improvements will positively impact Township residents and visitors, and respectfully request your assistance in securing \$12,000,000 to support the construction of this project as Congress considers federal transportation funding through the forthcoming reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act. **With this level of federal contribution matched with Cedar's preconstruction commitment, the project will be 100% funded.**

Thank you for your continued support and leadership on behalf of Egg Harbor Township. If you or your staff has any questions about our request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



James J. McCullough  
Mayor